



## NEWSLETTER

September 1978

### From the Federal Secretary's Notebook

#### From the Federal Secretary's Notebook Presidential Message

Confirmation from the S.A. Branch that Dr. Tom Barber will lecture at the A.S.D.C. 1979 Bi-Annual Convention in Adelaide is most gratifying. The fact that we are now able to provide an overseas lecturer of world standing vindicates the recognition by the A.D.A. of Paedontics as an area for specialist practice.

Also I can report that the preliminary arrangements for the I.A.D.C. congress in Melbourne in 1983 are progressing well. A Venue and alternate venue have been tentatively booked, and the actual dates will be published in the next Newsletter after our A.S.D.C. council meets on November 6th to corroborate the Provisor's report.

Congratulations also must go to the state branches for their excellent convention programmes.

These activities augur well for the future of our society.

However, I wish to comment on a recent spate of state A.D.A. newsletter reports on the benefits (or otherwise) of the advent of dental therapists into our work field. There is no point in denying their existence and/or raging against their effectiveness in helping to control dental disease in children. Dental therapists are here to stay. The political benefits to the parties in power will see to that. What we must do, is ensure that they are used only according to the law, and that they are educated to a standard that will maintain the present quality of dentistry in Australia.

Each State has its own peculiar problems, and it is to be hoped that we, as a Society with special knowledge will be able to nurture each individual therapist scheme to a welcome maturity.

JOHN KEYS

1. In the previous Newsletter, branches were asked to comment on the A.D.A. By-Law concerning Affiliation. As yet, I've received no response. Please forward comments at earliest opportunity.
2. As mentioned as a Stop Press in the last Newsletter, the A.D.A. has decided to take the necessary steps to include Paedontics in its list of officially recognised dental specialties. This will be finalised in November by the A.D.A. All State Secretaries have been circularised with details of the A.S.D.C. Submission plus the appropriate section of the A.D.A. Policy. The A.D.A. has made a request that such Specialists be certain they refer patients back to the referring dentist, once specialist treatment is complete.
3. The A.S.D.C. was an official sponsoring organisation for the 9th International Congress for Child Psychiatry and Allied Professions in Melbourne.
4. The A.D.A. has advised that an earlier decision by the Australian Drug Evaluation Committee of the Ministry of Health regarding Leder-mix, has been rescinded. This material should now be readily available.
5. State Secretaries - Urgent action required. The A.D.A. is compiling its 1979 Calender of events. They require:
  - Date
  - Name of Event
  - Lecturer
  - Venue
  - Sponsoring Body
  - Name and Address of ContactPlease forward the information direct to the A.D.A. Federal Secretariat, (with a copy to me).
6. All members should have received details of the next I.A.D.C. Congress in Budapest. Early reply is important.
7. The 9th I.A.D.C. Congress, 1983, See "The Presidents Message".

8. Many members will have enjoyed the lectures of Professor Joe Sim. My apologies to him for the incorrect spelling of his name in the previous newsletter.

ALISTAIR DEVLIN

#### New South Wales Branch

The Branch has held two successful meetings this year at the Sydney University Union.

The first meeting on April 4th was addressed by, Drs. Ab Campbell and Dr. George Baulman, their topic was "The Role of the Dental Therapist in Dentistry Today". Both George and Ab are employed by the Health Commission of N.S.W. involved in teaching and supervising school dental therapists; their presentation was especially illuminating for private practitioners and a lively question time was to follow.

The guest speaker at our second meeting on July 4th was Dr. J. David Lockyer, a specialist orthodontist and currently Secretary of the A.S.O. N.S.W. Branch. His excellent presentation was entitled, "The Three R's of Orthodontics - Recognition...Reasons...Referral". It aimed at the nonspecialist paedodontist with a reasonable background knowledge of orthodontics. Judging by the protracted discussion that evolved, it was right on target.

Our third dinner meeting, at the same venue on September 19th, promises to be a most rewarding evening as the format will be a Forum discussion under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kevin Gillings. Kevin enjoys an international reputation for his work on preventive dentistry and his dedicated enthusiasm for the subject is infectious. The aim of the Forum will be a critical appraisal of current fluoride therapy, with attention focused on the incidence of fluorosis in areas where water supplies are artificially fluoridated and supplementary fluoride has been used.

Kevin has recently returned from a trip to China and members will no doubt be interested to learn of his first hand impressions of dental practice from behind the "Bamboo Curtain".

Associate Professor Richard M. King, Department of Preventive

Dentistry and Social Dentistry, Otago University, gave a successful one day course at Terrigal on 30th July. Topics covered in his lecture programme were:

1. The School Dental Service.
2. Management of Children in General Practice
3. Operative Procedures for Children.
4. Pulp Management
5. Preventive Orthodontics.
6. Traumatic Injuries to Children's Teeth.

The Branch members who attended agreed that their trip from Sydney was well rewarded both academically and socially.

TOM MACKAY

#### Queensland Branch

Recent months have seen the branch attract some new members. Some of these members have already spoken of their Experiences in working in California and Fiji.

Other topics spoken about have been Behavioural Problems and their control, Root Therapy experiences, Use of Composite Resins and the Extraction of 6 year old molars.

At present we are looking towards our meeting in Toowoomba at which a number of members will speak. This will be followed by a dinner with the next day free to view the gardens.

A group from the society has seen its efforts in preparing child dental health education material bring rewards. This reward will be put towards founding a prize in Children's Dentistry at the University of Queensland.

ROBIN SMITH

#### Tasmanian Branch

An informal meeting was held in Hobart, at the school of Dental Therapy, on the afternoon of Saturday, 17th June. General topics were discussed and arrangements were made for the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday, 12th August, 1978.

President: D. Badger  
Vice President: A. Stabler  
Secretary/Treasurer: P. Bolster  
Committee Members: F. Wimmer  
A. Morris

A Buffet Dinner for members, wives and guests was held, following the meeting. Guests of Honour were the A.D.A. Visiting Lecturer, Professor Joe Sim, and his wife, Pat. Professor Sim presented a well illustrated lecture on the emergency treatment of Traumatized Anterior Teeth.

For the November Meeting, date and venue to be advised - Dr. Dick Fitzgerald will present a clinical demonstration and lecture on Relative Analgesics.

PETER BOLSTER

### Victoria Branch

By the time the Newsletter goes to press, we will have nearly completed our programme for the year. One more Evening Meeting is planned, for Thursday November 2nd, when Pediatrician Dr. John Court will speak on "The Child who fails to thrive". That will be followed the next day (November 3rd) by our second one-day Symposium, this time on "Dentistry for the Handicapped Patient". The venue will be the Royal Dental Hospital, and the programme features both local and interstate speakers. Interstate Members who wish to attend this day are cordially invited to attend the prior evening meeting.

The time since the last Newsletter have been particularly busy for the Branch.

On May 4th, our third Evening Meeting, we were treated to a first-hand account of the Report on Human Relationships by Dr. Rosemary Wearing, a Sociologist at La Trobe University, who also managed to prick our social conscience by pointing out Dentistry's minuscule reference in the Report. The implication would seem to be that as a profession in contact with the wider needs of people we have a long way to go. Needless to say, the night ended on a vigorous note after keen debate and discussion.

On May 24-26th, we staged our annual three-day Course in Child Dental Health at the Royal Dental Hospital and School, which has proved to be of popular interest; this year particularly amongst our colleagues in the School Dental Service, and we look forward to their continuing support.

This event was followed by a repeat (by popular request) of Melbourne

Orthodontist, Dr. Darryle Bowden's "Growth and Development Course". This was held on Saturday June 24th, and was followed on the Monday (26th) by our first ever Symposium, on "Community Dentistry", which proved most successful. Over sixty people attended from at home, the country, and interstate, including a strong contingent from Tasmania. Our main speaker, Dr. David Roder, from South Australia, gave a brilliant exposition on "the Dimensions of Community Dentistry", followed by a study of "the Dental Needs of Children in Australia - are they being met?". He was supported by Dr. John Spencer, from Melbourne, speaking on "Alternatives in the provision of Child Dental Health Services", and by the two other speakers. It was a memorable day, probably unique in Australia, as being the first ever Symposium devoted entirely to the topic of Dentistry in the Community. We hope to follow it up with a sequel each and every year.

Early August saw a visit to Melbourne of Professor Phil Holloway, from Manchester, U.K., as the Faculty's Guest Lecturer for 1978. Altogether he presented 5 lectures all dealing with "Dental Services for Children", drawing on his considerable experience. His polished presentation and easy pleasant manner made him a very popular lecturer.

We will have had our fourth meeting on September 7th, with Melbourne Psychologist, Dr. Nancy MacMurray speaking on "Anxieties in Children", with obvious reference to Dentistry.

Finally, plans for the 1983 I.A.D.C. International Meeting in Melbourne are already well under way,

JOHN WILDE

### Western Australia Branch

The Western Australian Branch's most recent meeting was an evening meeting on Wednesday, July 19th. A good attendance was recorded and those present were treated to two excellent dissertations. The first by Dr. Richard Brown, on "Emergency Handling of Trauma Cases:" this talk made special reference to splinting techniques, and some interesting thoughts were expressed on the best course of action in reimplanting avulsed teeth. The second was by Dr. Cyril Barcham, and arose from

discussion at the April meeting. Two successful long term cases of 'External bleaching of intrinsically stained permanent incisors' were presented and discussed.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday September 27th. We are looking forward to hearing Dr. Ian Hay dealing with his methods of Motivating patients in Preventive Dentistry.

The Annual General Meeting will be on Monday November 6th at the Riverside Hotel and Lodge in Perth. It will be preceded by a dinner, and all members will welcome the opportunity of meeting and extending hospitality to the Federal President, Dr. John Keys.

ALISTAIR DEVLIN

#### South Australian Branch

The Branch has had one dinner meeting of interest since the last newsletter was published. At the next one in early September, Dr. Betty Fanning will speak on "The role of nutrition in Dentistry for the General Practitioner".

In late June the guest speaker was local orthodontist Dr. Ian Watson. His topic was "Habits"- those with a dental related problem.

He dealt with three basic groups:

1. Those related to the tongue.
2. Those related to sucking.
3. Others e.g. nail biting, Bruxism, etc.

The main message was that habits, because of their continuous positive reinforcement, are difficult to change.

A person swallows 500-3,000 times per day, and if this swallowing is abnormal, resulting in a tongue thrust problem, it is going to be less than easy to unlearn this deviant habit.

Similarly with sucking habits. The use of "punishment" appliances have a very low success rate.

It is necessary to have a co-operative patient, who has deliberately decided that they wish to change or stop the habit -then the use of "reminder" appliances, behaviour modification techniques, achieves a much higher rate of success.

The Branch's First Country Convention will be held at the Weintal Motel

Hotel, Tanunda, Friday and Saturday 27-28th October. Transport has been arranged to take interstate travellers from Adelaide Airport to the Weintal, (leave the airport at 10.40 a.m.) Time has been set aside on Friday 27th so that interstate visitors wishing to present a clinical paper can do so, and the secretary would be happy to hear from anyone wishing to talk. The program includes, Pain in Childhood, Orthodontics, Periodontics, Oral Pathology and Community Dentistry and the Child. Dinners have been arranged for the Friday and Saturday nights and luncheon on Saturday, at Yalumba Winery, is also included.

We are looking forward to a good attendance.

#### A.S.D.C. Clinical Meeting 1979

The Third Clinical Convention will be held in Adelaide on Thursday and Friday, June 21st, 22nd 1979. The guest lecturer will be Professor Thomas K. Barber, Chairman, Division of Preventive Dental Sciences School of Dentistry, University of California at Los Angeles.

Professor Barber has lectured extensively in the U.S.A., he was a 'Fulbright Scholar' to South America and has also presented lectures in Europe and Japan. He has participated in many committees of the American Society of Dentistry for Children and is a member of the Editorial Commission.

Make the appropriate entry in your '79 appointment book now.

P.J.W. VERCO